

REMARKS

Upon entry of this amendment, Claims 1-19 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 20-28 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

To summarize the Office Action, Claims 1-19 are allowed by the Examiner and claims 20-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Further, the Examiner has objected to the specification.

I. Objection to the Specification

The Examiner has objected to the specification because the title is not descriptive of the invention. In response, Applicant has amended the title so as to be more descriptive of the invention. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of this ground of objection is requested.

II. Allowed Claims

As set forth above, the Examiner has indicated that claims 1-19 are allowed.

III. Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 20-23 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bares (U.S. Patent No. 5,981,133) in view of Shimmura (U.S. Patent No. 6,603,934) and Miyamoto et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,981,133). Claim 24 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bares in view of Shimmura and Miyamoto et al, further in view of Oogi (U.S. Patent No. 5,974,276). Claim 26 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bares in view of Shimmura and Miyamoto et al., further in view of Suzuki

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(U.S. Patent No. 6,853,817). Claim 27 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bares in view of Shimmura and Miyamoto et al., further in view of Yoshida et al. (JP 8-289148). Claim 28 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bares (U.S. Patent No. 5,981,133) in view of Miyamoto et al.

Applicant submits that these grounds of rejection are moot in view of the cancellation of claims 20-28.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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